



FOR RELEASE
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Want to File Export Documents Manually?

WASHINGTON--The U.S. Customs Service and the Bureau of the Census are advising exporters that the 30 year old Census Automated Export Reporting Program (AERP) ends December 31, 1999. It is being replaced by the Automated Export System (AES), run jointly by Census and Customs. Exporters are encouraged to either sign on to AES now, while there is time for needed testing, or revert to filing paperwork manually.

"Very few companies can afford to backstep in terms of technology," said Customs Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly. "AES speeds the export process for individual companies, and guarantees better export data for our country."

One hundred fifty-five (155) companies now use AES, transmitting commodity information for approximately 14,300 unique exporting companies or exporting individuals. There are approximately 412 applicants testing or developing AES software.

Current AERP filers are encouraged to submit an AES Letter of Intent (LOI) and begin programming immediately to ensure their AES certification and testing can be completed before the AERP termination date.

If current AERP filers have not migrated to AES by December 31, 1999, they will be forced to file their export paperwork manually by using Department of Commerce form 7525-V.

Look for AES information on the web at www.customs.treas.gov/aes or call the AES toll-free hotline at (800) 549-0595.

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Report Drug Smuggling to 1-800-BE-ALERT
<http://www.customs.treas.gov>